

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Seneca Ayr Farm Survey Number: M:19-29

Project: I-270/US 15 Multimodal Study, Montgomery and Frederick Co. Agency: SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no      yes Name                      Date                     

Eligibility recommended            Eligibility not recommended X

Criteria:     A     B     C     D Considerations:     A     B     C     D     E     F     G     None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Seneca Ayr Farm, located at 13100 West Old Baltimore Road in the vicinity of Germantown in Montgomery County, is not considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Seneca Ayr Farm is a working dairy farm with a large complex of domestic and agricultural buildings, all dating from the mid-20th century. The property as farmland dates back to at least the early to mid-19th century, when Alfred Warfield sold 196 acres of land to Cassaway Linthicum. The property remains in the Linthicum family today. The principal crop of the farm was tobacco until the mid-20th century, when the current owner converted the farm into a dairy complex.

1 of the present buildings on the farm date to the 20th century and relate to dairy farming. The main residence, an American four-square was built in 1927, following the destruction by fire of the original 19th-century farmhouse on the property. The dairy barn, a large gambrel-roofed, concrete-block structure and its associated buildings (silos, sheds) date to 1942, while other agricultural buildings and the house garage are from the 1950s.

The property has been in the ownership of the Linthicum family for over 140 years. The Linthicums were among the earliest settlers in the county, were prominent in the development of Montgomery County and were among the renowned citizens in the early history of the District of Columbia. Despite this association with the Linthicum family, the property does not qualify for listing under Criterion B. This property is not known to be the primary representation of the locally known family and retains no buildings from the period of history in which the Linthicums played a vital role. Further, although the farm complex illustrates the importance of farming in the history of Montgomery County, the complex is not a good representation of a tobacco farm, since none of the buildings from that period of its history survive. Nor is the property known as a dairy farm to have served a vital role in the dairy industry in Montgomery County. The property lacks the architectural distinctiveness necessary to qualify it for listing on the National Register under Criterion C.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT Inventory Files

Prepared by: Julie Mueller, Architectural Historian, Greenhorne and O'Mara (MHT From, 9/94)

Kimberly Prothro Williams September 20, 1996  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes      no      not applicable

Patricia A. Kuntz  
Reviewer, NR program

9/23/96  
Date

*gmg*

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

## I. Geographic Region:

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)  
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)  
☒ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)  
☐ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

## II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.  
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.  
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.  
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.  
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.  
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900  
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600  
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750  
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815  
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870  
☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930  
☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present  
☐ Unknown Period ( ☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

## III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence  
☐ Settlement  
☐ Political  
☐ Demographic  
☐ Religion  
☐ Technology  
☐ Environmental Adaptation

## IV. Historic Period Themes:

☒ Agriculture  
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning  
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)  
☐ Government/Law  
☐ Military  
☐ Religion  
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural  
☐ Transportation

## V. Resource Type:

Category: BuildingHistoric Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling;  
Subsistence/Agricultural/Dairy barn, silos, sheds, corncrib

Known Design Source: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name Errors Corrected (Seneca Ayr Farm)
2. Planning Area/Site Number 19/29\*
3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference:\*Not on Atlas
4. Address Old Baltimore Road, Boyds
5. Classification Summary
- Category building
- Ownership private
- Public Acquisition NA
- Status occupied
- Accessible no
- Present use private residence/agriculture
- Previous Survey Recording \_\_\_\_\_ Federal \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Local \_\_\_\_\_
- (Title and date: \_\_\_\_\_ )
6. Date 1927
7. Original Owner: Charles Gorman Linthicum
8. Apparent Condition
- a. excellent
- b. unaltered
- c. original site
9. Description: This three bay by three bay frame house faces north. It has 2½ stories, a hipped patterned tin roof, wood bevel siding and a formstone foundation. There is one interior brick chimney. The one-bay front porch is one story, with a shed roof. On the east side is a shed roofed enclosure attached to the house. On the south side is a three bay by one bay, one story enclosed porch with a shed roof, used as the kitchen. Outbuildings include a frame corncrib with silo, a frame bank barn, cement dairy barn and milk house, frame meat house and frame chicken house and cement garage.
10. Significance: This farm is associated with one of the County's longstanding and highly regarded farming families. The land on which this house stands has been farmed by the Linthicum family for 167 years. Lott Linthicum moved to the northwestern County in 1811 and married Ann Eliza Watkins. In 1826 they bought 228 ¾ acres of land, named "Errors Corrected" from the heirs of Nicholas Ridgeley Warfield, and acquired additional land from Asa Holland. Their son, Cassaway Watkins Linthicum, became owner of the farm in 1861. He married Amanda Hoyle of the Hoyle's Mill family, and together they raised wheat, potatoes, hogs, and honeybees. His land was described in a contemporary account as "under fine cultivation". Title passed to their son, George, and then to his son, the present owner, Charles Gorman Linthicum, who began his dairy operation in 1913. The old farm house burned down in 1927, and the new one was built with labor and materials from the community.
11. Date researched and researcher 11/78 - Peg Coleman
12. Compiler Gail Rothrock
13. Date Compiled 2/79
14. Designation Approval \_\_\_\_\_
15. Acreage 208.51 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 19/29  
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Errors Corrected

AND/OR COMMON

Seneca Ayr Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Old Baltimore Road

CITY, TOWN

Boys

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☒ AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles Gorman Linthicum

Telephone #: 972-3895

STREET & NUMBER

SAME

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20720

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 428

Folio #: 487

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**☒ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This 3 bay by 3 bay frame house faces north. It has 2½ stories, a hipped patterned tin roof, wood bevel siding and a formstone foundation. There is one interior brick chimney. The one-bay front porch is one story, with a shed roof. On the east side is a shed roofed enclosure attached to the house. On the south side is a 3 bay by 1 bay, 1 story enclosed porch with a shed roof, used as the kitchen.

Outbuildings include a 1½ story frame corner crib, with attached silo for corn storage, a 1 story cement block garage with tin roof, and a wood frame bank barn with fieldstone foundation. A large, cement block dairy barn west of these buildings has a cement milk house connected to it by a covered, cement-floored breezeway. An old, frame meat house, 1 bay by 1 bay, is east of the main house; the cement stepping stone into this building was the tombstone of Lot Linthicum's wife, Ann, and appropriately inscribed. A 1 bay by 1 bay wood frame chicken house is north of the meat house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| PERIOD  |   | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW           |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION                       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE                        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS                         | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE                      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE           | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION                         | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                    | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING                       | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER                        |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION                 |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-     | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS         | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY                          | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION                         |   | Local History   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES 1927

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Linthicum family has owned the farm on Little Seneca Creek for the past 167 years. Five generations of Linthicums have lived atop the high knoll, and a sixth is now studying agriculture at Montgomery College in preparation for assuming his responsibility as owner of the Seneca Ayr Farm.<sup>1</sup>

Linthicums were among the area's first settlers. They descend from Thos. Lincecomb who arrived in Maryland about 1657. Captain Edward Selby brought him to America along with five other settlers, thereby earning 300 acres of land for himself from Lord Baltimore.<sup>2</sup> The Linthicums are well known throughout the state.

A Methodist circuit-riding minister, Slingsby Linthicum, was the first Linthicum to move to Montgomery County.<sup>3</sup> His son, Lott (or Lot), moved to northwestern Montgomery County in 1811.<sup>4</sup> He married Ann Eliza Watkins.<sup>5</sup> Lott and Ann bought 228 3/4 acres of land, named Errors Corrected, from the heirs of Nicholas Ridgeley Warfield in 1826.<sup>6</sup> He purchased an additional thirty acres of Cow Pasture from Asa Holland in 1830.<sup>7</sup> They were buried in the family plot on the farm. The graveyard has since been demolished and the coffins moved to the Salem Methodist Church in Cedar Grove.<sup>8</sup>

The son of Lott and Ann, Gassaway Watkins Linthicum, became owner of the farm in 1861.<sup>9</sup> His land was called Errors Corrected, contained 288 3/4 acres, and was kept "under fine cultivation", according to a contemporary report.<sup>10</sup> He married Amanda Hoyle of the Hoyle's Mill family. Gassaway sold 22 1/2 acres to Zachariah Dowden in 1867.<sup>11</sup>

Gassaway and Amanda raised wheat, potatoes, hogs, and honeybees. They used a wind mill, coal oil, and a butter churn. At the time of his death in 1883, they owned four horses, including a mare named Jenny, nineteen cows, and thirty-one shoats and hogs. They had a carriage, two wagons and a horse cart. Perhaps Amanda used honey for her home canning, as there were nine bee hives on the place. Apparently modern farming methods were practiced then as now, because five tons of fertilizer were included in his inventory.<sup>12</sup>

Gassaway and Amanda were buried in the family graveyard alongside Lott and Ann. Title passed to their son, George,<sup>13</sup> and then to his son, the present owner, Charles Gorman Linthicum. Charles attended school at Neelsville, began his dairy operation in 1913, and married a neighbor, Ethel Rose Reid in June 1923. The old farmhouse burned down in 1927, and a new one built. Neighbors and friends contributed labor and used materials, to the cash outlay for the Linthicums was \$300. From the 1930's to the present, Gerald Arnold, a member of the Milk Producer's Cooperative, has picked up milk at the Linthicums, and trucked it to Safeway dairies.

FOOTNOTES: See Attachment Sheet A

M:19-29

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE ATTACHED SHEET D

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 208.51 acres

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Old Baltimore Road, about one mile west of Route 355, to the I-270 overpass. Both sides of the Road, and both sides on Little Seneca Creek.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

None

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Margaret M. Coleman, Volunteer

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

November 14, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: ~~Maryland Historical Trust~~  
~~The Snow House, 21 State Circle~~  
~~Annapolis, Maryland 21401~~  
~~(301) 267-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS  
Box 87, Stronghold  
Dickerson, Md. 20753  
(301) 926-4510

Errors Corrected

FOOTNOTES

1. Charles G. and Ethel Reid Linthicum, Interview; Boyds, 1977-78.
2. Harry Wright Newman. Anne Arundel Gentry. Baltimore: Lord Baltimore Press, 1933; p. 456.
3. Ibid., p. 475.
4. Matilda P. Badger. Genealogy of the Linthicum and Allied Families. Baltimore: Genealogy Publishing Company, 1934; p. 57
5. Newman, p. 474.
6. Y/418, 419; 1826. Lott Linthicum buys Errors Corrected from the heirs of Nicholas Ridgeley Warfield. Cost, \$1,000 for 228 3/4 acres "with all buildings and improvements".
7. BS/415-420; 1830. Lott Linthicum buys part of Cow Pasture from Asa Holland.
8. Linthicum interview.
9. JGH 8/482; 1861. Gassaway W. Linthicum deed to Errors Corrected.
10. T.H.S. Boyd, The History of Montgomery County, Maryland from Its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Clarksburg: 1879.
11. JGH 6/425; 1867. Zachariah Dowden buys part of Errors Corrected from Gassaway Watkins Linthicum.
12. PEW 5/248; 1885. Gassaway Linthicum's Inventory.
13. EBP 20/78 et seq; 1879.



## Attachment Sheet D

## Bibliography

Primary Sources

## Montgomery County Land Records

Y/418, 419.

JGH 8/482

BS 415-420

EBP 20/78

BS 8/433

JGH 6/425

428/487

Inventories - PEW 5/248

## Personal Interviews

Charles Gorman Linthicum

Ethel Reid Linthicum

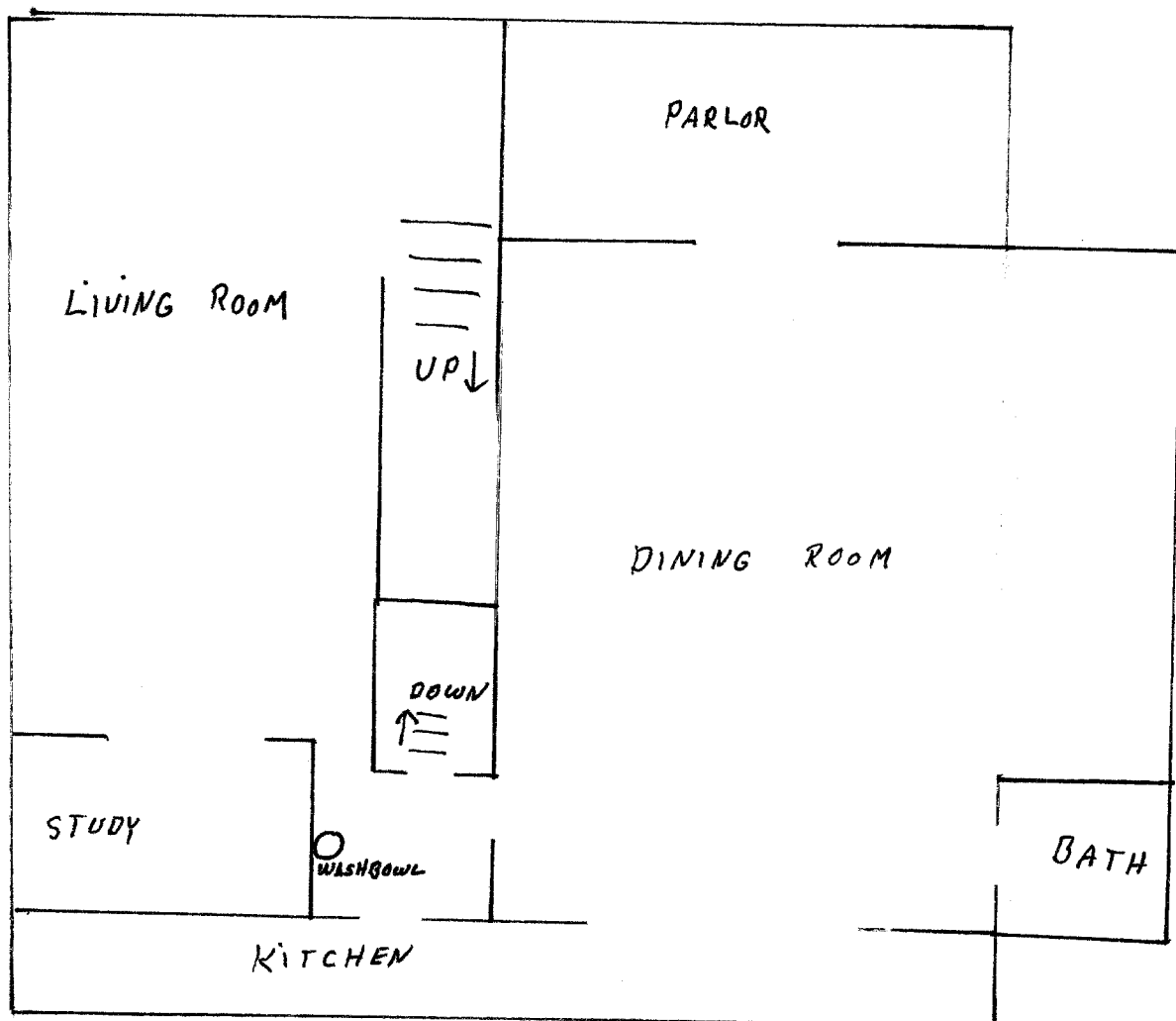
Store Ledgers - William Willson, Clarksburg, Maryland. Owned by Clarence Day, Clarksburg.

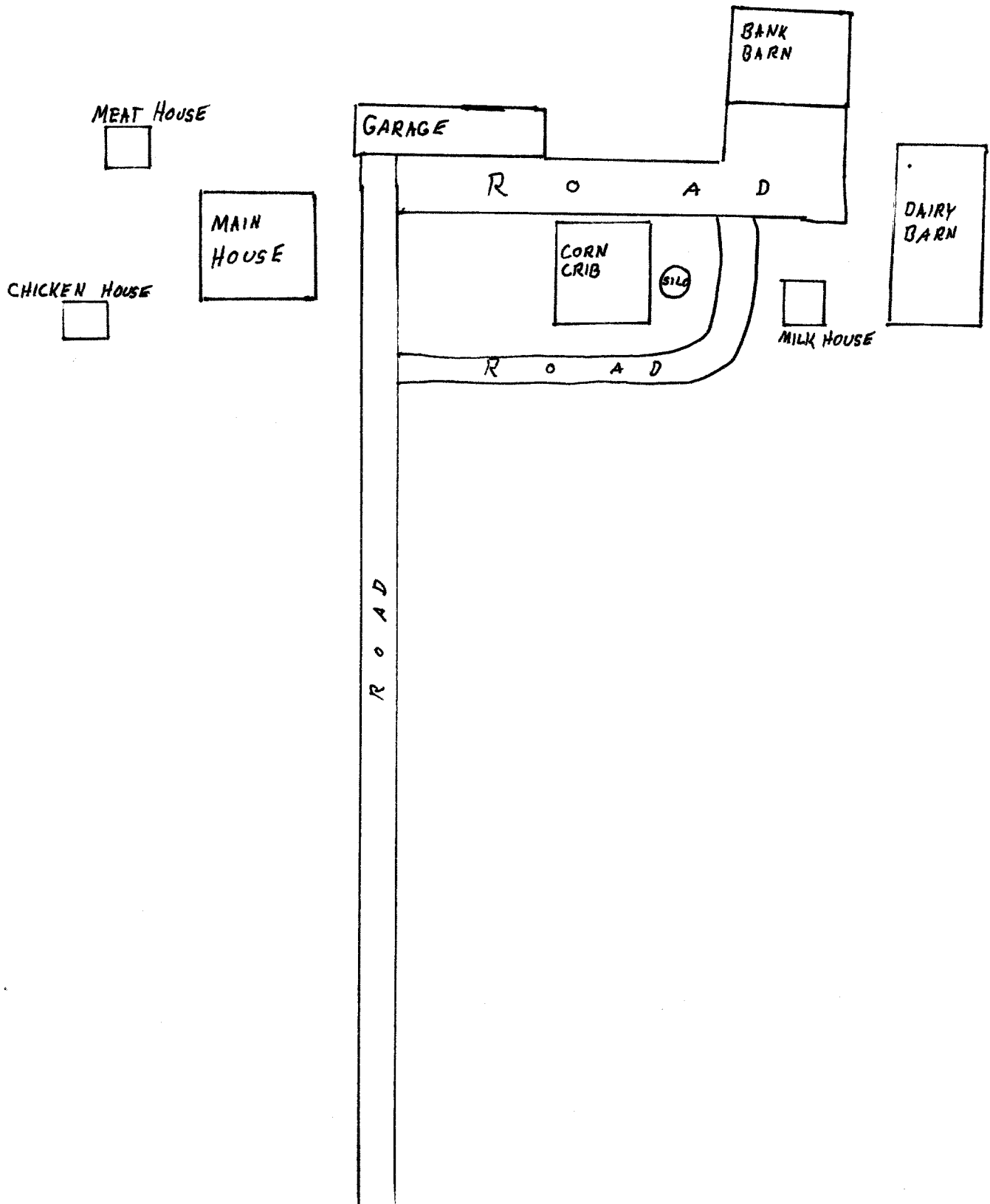
Secondary SourcesBadger, Matilda P. Genealogy of the Linthicum and Allied Families. Baltimore: Genealogy Publishing Co., 1934.Boyd, T.H.S. The History of Montgomery County, Maryland from Its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879. Clarksburg: 1879. Republished Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1972.

Coleman, Margaret M. "Roots for a New Neighborhood." Unpublished manuscript. Boyds, 1977.

Jewell, E. Guy. From One Room to Open Space. Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, Md., 1976.

Trout, Dennis L. "4-H News and Notes." College Park, Md. Cooperative Extension Service; April, 1977.





E.

SS NOTICE.

Hobbs,  
Goods and Groceries,  
Shoes, Drugs, Notions

NOTICES.

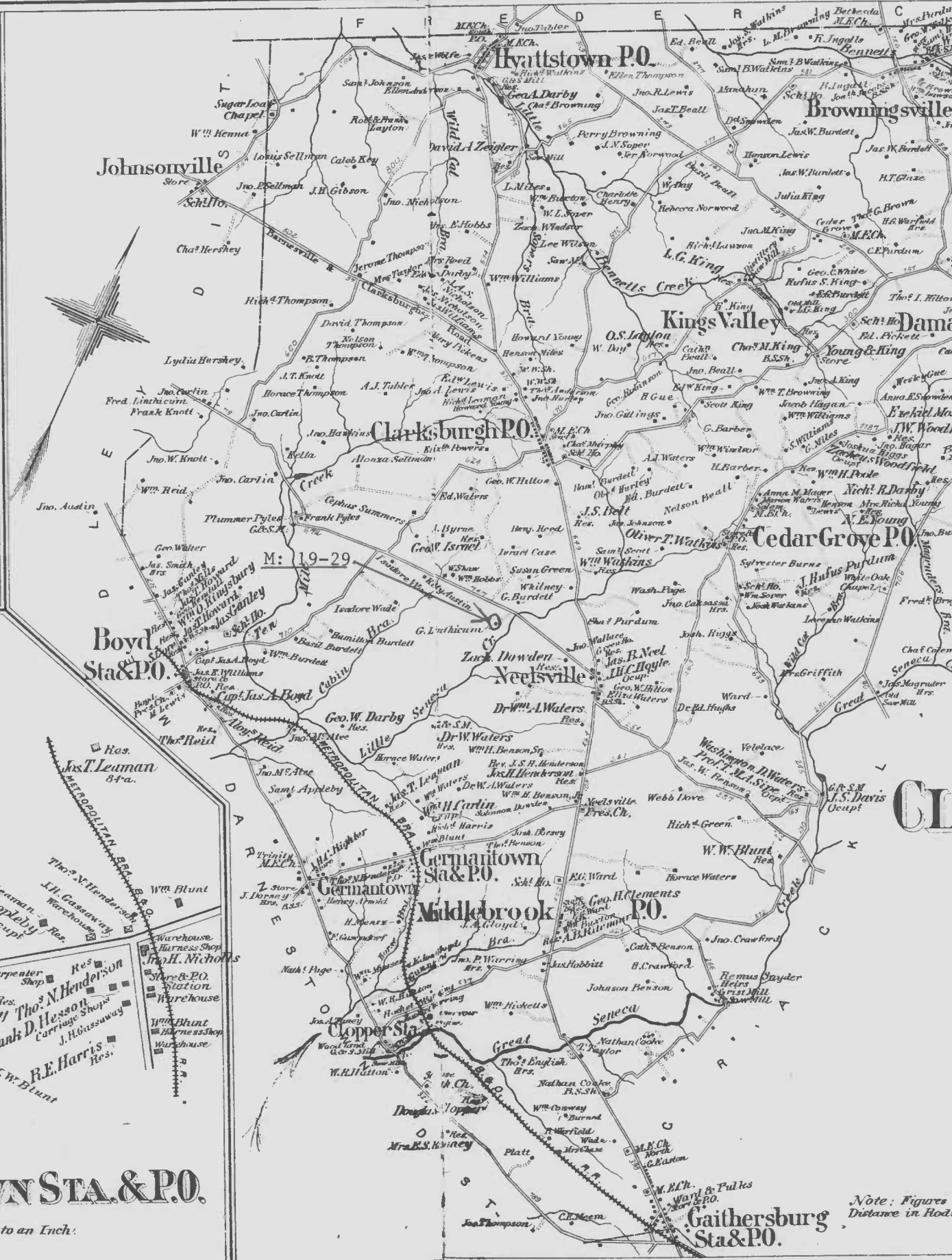
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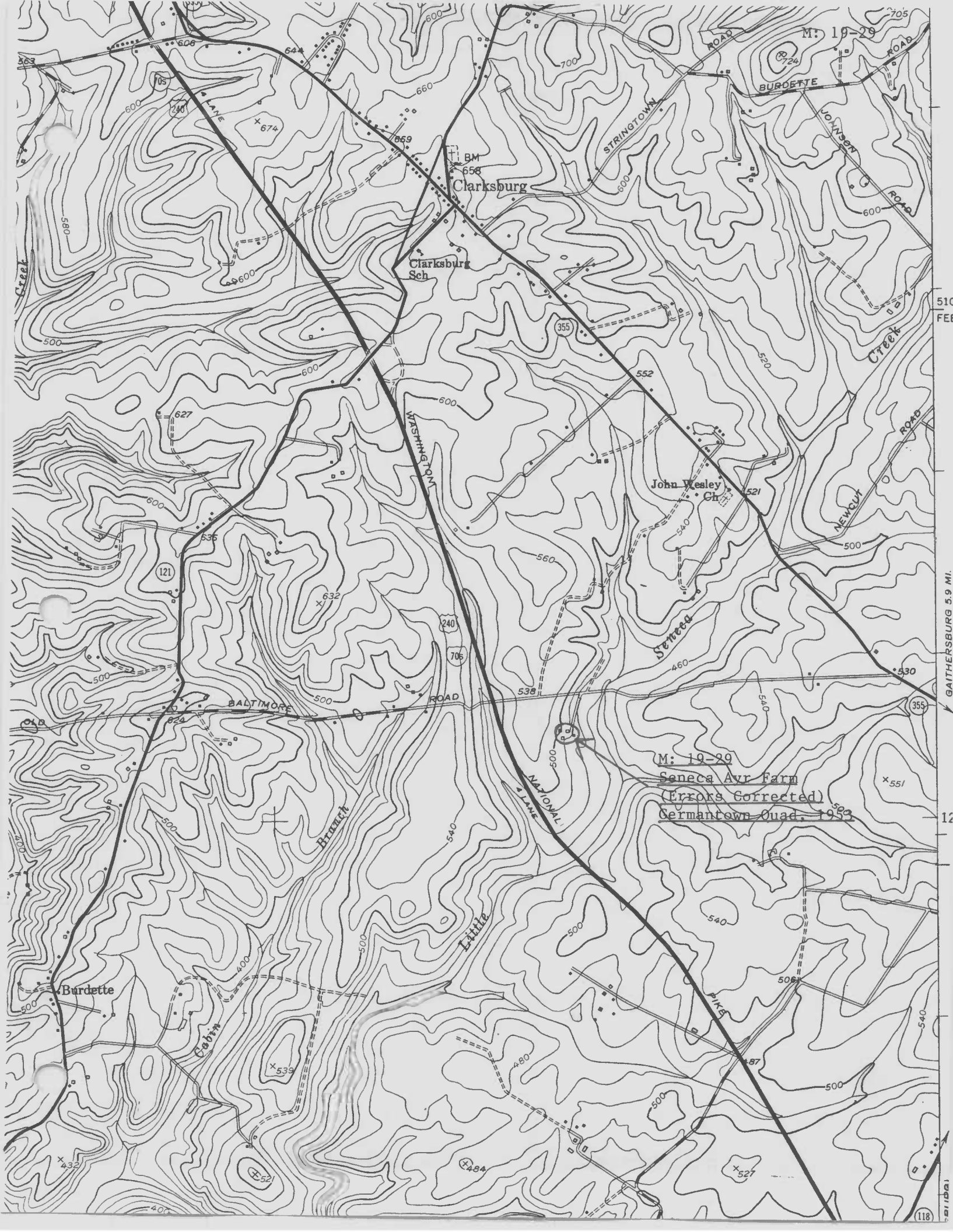
Anderson,  
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Geo. T. Dunlop's  
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Respairs.

Wills,  
Manufacturer,  
Full stock of  
Whips, Harness,  
rs, Fly Nets, etc.  
Key.

MANTOWN STA. & P.O.

Scale 40 Rods to an Inch.





BM  
658  
Clarksburg

Clarksburg Sch

John Wesley Ch

M: 19-29  
Seneca Avr Farm  
(Errors Corrected)  
Sermantown Quad, 1952

GAITHERSBURG 5.9 MI.



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M: 19-29





M. 19-29





11:19-29





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17. 19-11



17. 19-11



M: 19-29





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M: 11-27



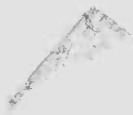


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